

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 586
By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Woodrow Wilson "Doc" Bragg of McMinnville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of retired McMinnville businessman and former city alderman Woodrow Wilson "Doc" Bragg; and

WHEREAS, Doc Bragg was an extremely talented and compassionate individual who distinguished himself as a professional of the greatest integrity and performed his duties with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm, working assiduously to facilitate the community of McMinnville in reaching its full potential; and

WHEREAS, the Dibrell native was born on March 15, 1914, to the late Ruby Foster Bragg and Thomas Perkins Bragg; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bragg served three terms on the McMinnville Board of Mayor and Aldermen with acumen and alacrity, interrupting his tenure on the city council to serve his country in World War II. He served on the aldermanic council from 1942-44 and resumed his role upon returning home, serving from 1944-46; he then held one more term from 1954-56; and

WHEREAS, a veteran of World War II, Doc Bragg served with courage and distinction as a member of the United States Army from February 1944 until April 1946, primarily stationed in France; he was a member of VFW Post 5064 and the American Legion; and

WHEREAS, Doc Bragg was a well-respected businessman for more than sixty-three years, having worked in the nursery business from 1932 until 1939; he owned and operated a Western Auto store from 1939 until 1956, a John Deere dealership from 1947 until 1969, and an automobile dealership from 1948 until 1965; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bragg returned to the nursery business in 1970, founding Cumberland Valley Nurseries, primarily growing peach trees; from this enterprise he took a well deserved retirement in September of 1995; and

WHEREAS, a true gentleman, Doc Bragg joined the Rotary Club in 1937 and was an active member for more than sixty-six years, as well as a past president; he was an avid fisherman, quail hunter, and turkey hunter; and

WHEREAS, his professional accomplishments aside, Mr. Bragg was devoted to maintaining the highest ideals of family and community, and he was most grateful for the caring relationship he shared with his wonderful family; and

WHEREAS, appreciative of his many blessings, Doc Bragg enjoyed the loving companionship of his devoted wife of sixty-five years, Dorothy King Bragg, who passed in 2003; he was also preceded in death by his sister, Georgia Bragg Cordell; half-brothers, Clarence L. Bragg, John Roy Bragg, Walter Ray Bragg, Thomas J. Bragg, Dixie Miller Bragg, David Nelson Foster, and Edward Carrol Foster; and half-sisters, Hassie Pearl Bragg, Carrie Georgia Bragg, and Mary Elisabeth Bragg; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by one son, Thomas Perkins Bragg and wife, Janice Hodges Bragg; two sisters, Mary Perkins Bragg Hillis and Bettie Ruth Bragg Lemley; three grandchildren, Michelle Hogan, Kristin LaBoon and husband, John, and Edwin Bragg, all of whom knew him as "Grandpa Doc"; three great-grandchildren, Heather Hogan, Harrison Hogan, and Laura LaBoon; and many nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, a man of unwavering faith, Doc Bragg was an active and devout member of the Central Church of Christ in McMinnville for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bragg truly served as an inspiration to his colleagues; his friendship and counsel were highly valued by those who were fortunate to know him; and

WHEREAS, Woodrow Wilson "Doc" Bragg leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Woodrow Wilson "Doc" Bragg, reflecting fondly

upon his impeccable character, his integrity, and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family and many friends of Mr. Bragg.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.